

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method for guiding a surgical instrument within and around the human body. The invention employs a light emitter and an array of light sensors and a display to accurately locate an anatomical feature into which the light emitter has been placed. Laser or LED light emitted from an emitter, conveyed by a light conduit, is detected after passing through a thickness of bone and/or soft tissue by the sensor array. The signal from the sensor array is processed and information indicating the relative direction of the emitter from the sensor is displayed. The light can be directed by a mirror or by bending the end of the light conduit.

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